

# PEOPLE PLANES PLACES

Edited by J02 Dan Ball

PH3 Martin S. Fuentes

## Awards

The aircraft rescue and firefighting team at MCAS Yuma, Ariz., received the **2001 Marine Corps Fire Department of the Year** award, presented to the unit with the best records in customer service, innovation, quality management and quality of life.

*Enterprise* (CVN 65) took top honors in the large command category of the Department of Defense **2002 Defense Maintenance Awards**, which recognize outstanding achievements in military equipment and weapon systems maintenance.

Training Air Wing 2's Lt. Joel Janopoulos was awarded the Naval Air Training Command's **2002**

**Early morning fog sets in aboard *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) as the crew prepares for her underway period later in the day.**

**Landing Signal Officer of the Year** award.

PCU *Ronald Reagan's* training officer Cdr. Judith A. Lee received the **2002 Joy Bright Hancock Award** during the Women Officers Professional Association symposium. She was selected from a field of 79 officers and senior enlisted personnel for her inspirational leadership.

John. C. Wright III, an NAS Jacksonville, Fla., firefighter, was recognized for his dedication, hard work and distinguished career by

being named both the **2001 All-Navy Firefighter of the Year** and the **2001 Department of Defense Firefighter of the Year**.

Naval Region Mid-Atlantic named *Saipan* (LHA 2) the large afloat winner in its **Personal Excellence Partnership Flagship** award. The honor recognizes the best educational partnership program between a Navy command and a school or youth service organization.

*Kearsarge* (LHD 3) received the **2001 Secretary of the Navy Energy Conservation Award**. The award recognizes outstanding leadership in energy management, innovations in the improvements of energy efficient equipment and energy conserving approaches in

## STATUS CHANGE OF NAVY CAPT. MICHAEL "SCOTT" SPEICHER

On 11 October 2002, Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Gordon England announced a revision to the status of Navy Capt. Michael "Scott" Speicher. Then a LCdr., he has been unaccounted for since his VFA-81 F/A-18 Hornet was shot down over Iraq on the opening night of Operation Desert Storm in 1991. Based in part on the significant status change made in 2001 from "Killed in Action" to "Missing in Action," SECNAV decided that the most appropriate category is "Missing—Captured."



*Note: On 29 October, President George W. Bush enacted the Persian Gulf War POW/MIA Accountability Act of 2002, which aims to persuade foreign nationals to take the necessary and sometimes risky steps needed to return any surviving American POW/MIA from the Persian Gulf War by providing asylum to those who cooperate and their families.*

daily operations.

Four VAQ-130 crew members and the flight deck of *Harry S. Truman* (CVN 75) were saturated with aircraft fuel when a hose on a EA-6B Prowler ripped away from its nozzle during a routine hot-pump refueling. AO3 Yari Quintana grabbed the out-of-control hose while AD2 Dan Cowan and AT3 Kyle Mahaffey put a crimp in it. AMC(AW) Ward Toner signaled a rapid engine shutdown on the Prowler, after which the aircrew immediately left the aircraft. Then, the damaged hose was dragged to edge of the flight deck and secured. The four sailors each received the **Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal** for teamwork, quick thinking and professionalism.

## Scan Pattern

To provide more opportunities for growth, the Navy recently implemented the rank of **Chief Warrant Officer 5** (CWO5). An expected 84 will phase in over the next five years, providing technical

PH2 Felix Garza, Jr.



## CONNIE DEPARTS

Below, *Constellation* (CV 64) departs NAS North Island, Calif., for a six-month deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Right, l-r, CO Capt. John W. Miller, *Connie* Battle Group Commander RAdm. Barry Costello, and Commander CVW-2 Capt. Mark Fox take questions from local media at the pier before departing on deployment.



experience and leadership and enhancing combat readiness. No additional billets will be created as a result of this implementation, and the number of CWO5 billets may not exceed five percent of the total number of CWO billets. For more information go to [www.bupers.navy.mil](http://www.bupers.navy.mil).

The **Aviation Maintenance Officer School**, formerly located at the Naval Aviation Schools Command, NAS Pensacola, Fla., relocated to NAS Whiting Field, Fla., in December 2002. The relocation allows for further growth and professional development of the school, which graduated 249 students from its indoctrination and



PH1(AW/SW) Brian Tallette

**Sculptor Chas Fagan and Capt. Bill Goodwin, CO PCU *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76), unveil a bronze relief of the ship's namesake. The artwork is attached to a piece of the Berlin Wall.**

manager courses in FY 01.

A piece of the Berlin Wall, adorned with a bronze profile of the ship's namesake, was placed aboard **PCU *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76)**, crediting the former president with

## READ AND HEED

Iraqi forces continue to fire anti-aircraft artillery at coalition aircraft enforcing no-fly zones over Iraq. Subsequently, coalition planes have been dropping leaflets urging Iraqi military forces not to engage coalition aircrews. The leaflets state the consequences of such actions to ensure local civilians are properly informed. Typically 3 x 6 inches, the publications are written in Arabic and dropped in fiberglass containers that explode over designated areas to increase scatter and drift to the ground. In this example, the English translation is provided for information purposes.

DOD Graphic Illustration

ending the Cold War. Chas Fagan, the artist who created the sculpture, presented the piece to *Ronald Reagan* Sailors during a ceremony in Newport News, Va.

A new Naval Air Technical Data and Engineering Services Command

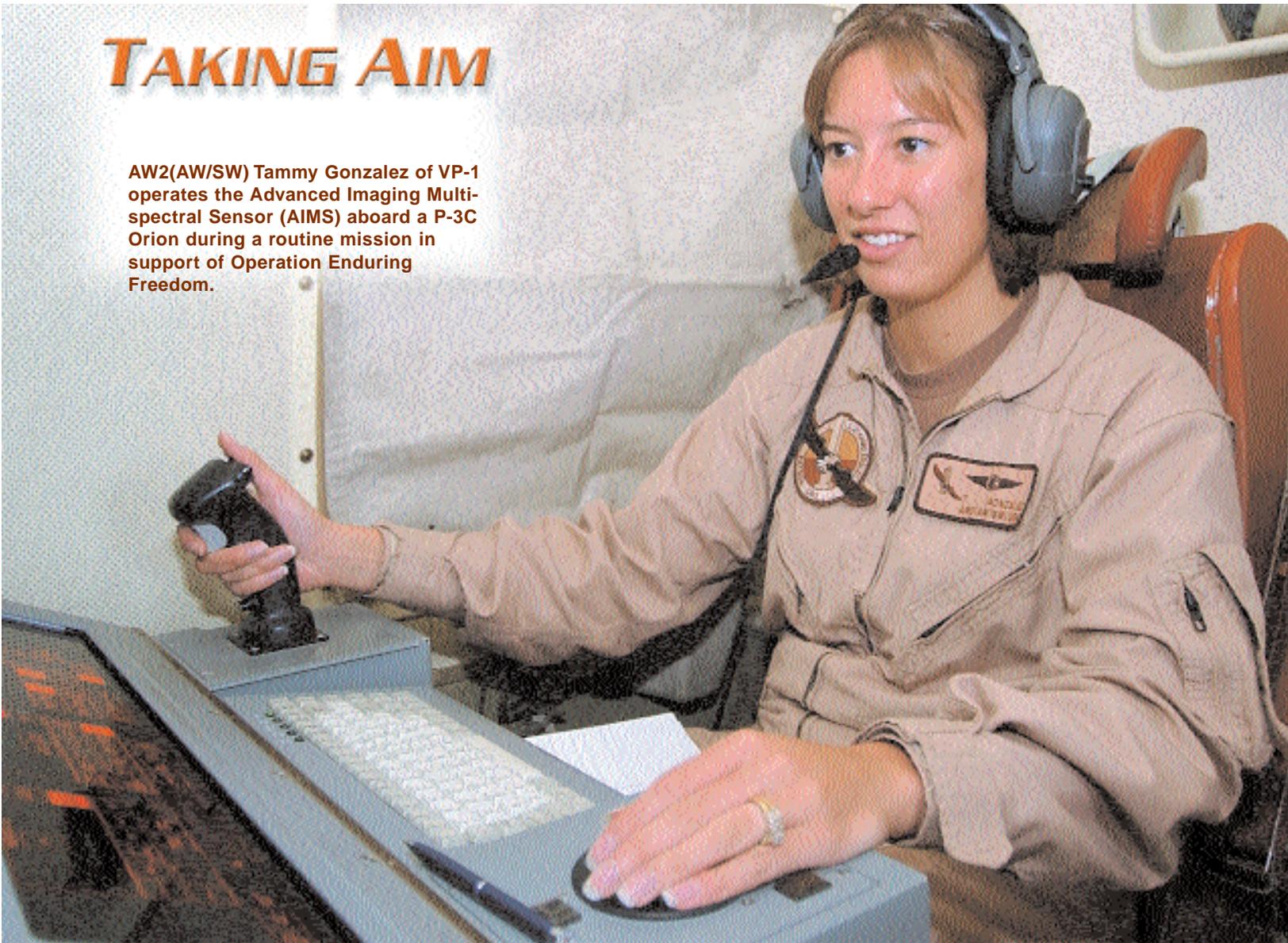
website, [www.natec.navy.mil](http://www.natec.navy.mil), designed to relieve the bulk of the paperwork and hassle of publication requests and changes, is leading the push for hosting more than 20,000 NAVAIR publications online by 2007. The digital access is faster for the fleet, and also solves the



**A Tactical Tomahawk missile is escorted by an F-14 Tomcat during a controlled test over the NAVAIR test range in southern California. This next-generation cruise missile can be reprogrammed in flight to strike any of 15 preprogrammed targets, or can be redirected to any global positioning system target coordinates.**

# TAKING AIM

AW2(AW/SW) Tammy Gonzalez of VP-1 operates the Advanced Imaging Multi-spectral Sensor (AIMS) aboard a P-3C Orion during a routine mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



logistical paper problem of storing and updating the manuals. Most of the manuals will be printable on demand.

## Rescues

A Marine Corps C-130 Hercules and two Air Force HH-60G Pavehawk helicopters from Keflavik, Iceland, rescued two people stranded in the ocean 300 miles southeast of Iceland. A Canadian and a British sailor were stranded when the mast from their 30-foot yacht broke during 50-knot winds in 15- to 20-foot seas. The victims were hoisted aboard the helos and provided first-aid treatment while in transit to a

hospital in Reykjavik. The **VMGR-452** Hercules provided in-flight refueling for the helos due to the long range of the rescue.

*Essex (LHD 2)*, anchored off the coast of Pohang, Korea, unloaded more than 900 members of the 3d Marine Expeditionary Force who were stranded there by typhoon Rusa. The Marines' original transportation had been affected by the typhoon and they were running low on supplies. *Essex* was called from her forward-deployed port of Sasebo, Japan, to pick up and transport the Marines to Okinawa, Japan.

A Sailor from VFA-151 was recovered off the coast of southern California after spending more than seven hours in the Pacific Ocean. The crewman was blown overboard by jet blast as he walked behind an EA-6B Prowler on board **Constellation (CV 64)**. Because fellow shipmates saw him go over the side, rescue efforts began immediately. Helicopter and rigid inflatable boats from *Connie*, *Valley Forge (CG 50)*, *Bunker Hill (CG 52)* and *Kinkaid (DD 965)* assisted and returned the victim to *Connie* where he was in stable condition after medical treatment.

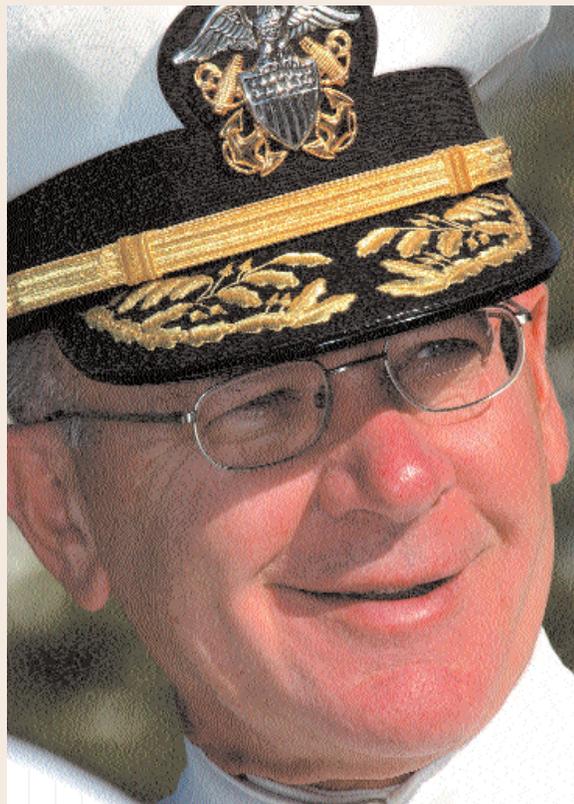
# NAVAL AVIATION CRITICAL TO WAR ON TERRORISM

By JOC Walter T. Ham IV, CNO Public Affairs

Two-thirds of the Navy's carrier force has deployed since the attacks on 11 September and Naval Aviation will continue to play a critical role in the war on terrorism, stated Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Vern Clark, right, during a speech at the Tailhook Reunion in Reno, Nevada. "What the world and our leadership is understanding is why the nation has to have this kind of capability. Without Naval Aviation, we would be just like any other navy," he said.

CNO emphasized that Naval Aviation has excelled because of its focus on the growth and development of its Sailors: "We grow our perspective because of the people we get to work around, the people who teach us, the people we came up with, the people who shape our character and our development. And even though I'm a black shoe, I'm an individual who has been shaped greatly by this community."

According to the admiral, another reason for Naval Aviation's success is clear focus on its purpose: to project American sovereignty and power to far corners of the earth. "It's the responsibility of everyone who leads in our Navy to help those who are coming along to understand who we are. One of the things that makes Naval Aviation great is that you all understand who you are," CNO said. "The men and women who lead our Navy are thinking hard and challenging the



PHC Johnny Biviera

assumptions about what our Navy is about today and what it needs to be about in the future. It's an exciting and great time to be a part of Naval Aviation and the United States Navy."



PHAN Stephanie M. Bergman

The Essex (LHD 2) crash and salvage team oversees the safety of flight operations as aircraft from the Aviation Combat Element of the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit arrive for semi-annual workups. The training helps blend the capabilities and techniques of the Navy/Marine Corps team into one cohesive unit.

# CARRIER PILOT LEARNS SECRETS OF WRIGHT BROTHERS

By *Kitty Hawk (CV 63)* Public Affairs



Lcdr. Rick Haupt

Lieutenant Commander Klas Ohman, a *Kitty Hawk (CV 63)* F/A-18C Hornet and Navy test pilot, right, recently completed an aviation archaeology expedition at Jockey's Ridge State Park, N.C., retracing discoveries made by the pioneers of aviation 100 years ago. In doing so, Ohman completed numerous flights in a replica of a 1902 Wright brothers glider, the first aircraft to incorporate yaw, pitch and roll controls, a technology that paved the way for powered flight and aviation as we know it today.



pioneers was enlightening for all involved, but the goal of the expedition was to further the future of aviation industry by inspiring young people.

Ohman logged a total of 25 flights in the glider, after training in a hang glider for two days. In order to fly, the historic glider replica requires a nominal 15 knots of wind and four people to literally run it up to about five knots over the ground. The longest flight measured was over 250 feet and was sustained for approximately 40 seconds.

He was impressed by the experience, "The 1902 glider is challenging to fly," Ohman said. "Reenacting the flights helped us better understand the challenges the Wrights faced in their journey to develop aviation."

Ohman looks forward to retracing more of the Wrights' historic discoveries in the upcoming months as the nation nears the 100th anniversary of the 17 December 1903 flight of the Wright Flyer, the first powered flight.

The experience allowed other military pilots to see aviation history firsthand as several U.S. Air Force and Army pilots joined Ohman for various flights. Learning the thinking processes of the aviation

For related news [www.news.navy.mil/local/cv63](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/cv63) or [www.kittyhawk.navy.mil](http://www.kittyhawk.navy.mil).

## BURGERS ON THE BARBEY

Members of the Australian air force hosted a barbeque at NAS North Island, Calif, that raised \$200 for Navy-Marine Corps Relief. The main dish was "Aussie Burgers," a cheeseburger with a pineapple ring, a slice of beet and a fried egg. When presenting the check, the squadron leader said, "It seems *Fosters*, *Russell Crowe* and *Crocodile Dundee* are not the only things Australia has brought to America."



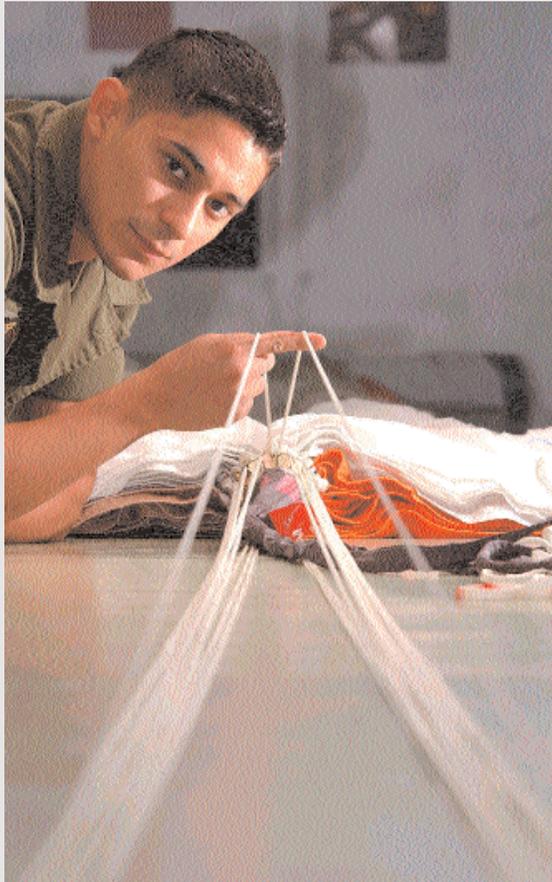
# MARINE AVIATION PLANTS ITS "BOOTS ON THE GROUND"

By LCpl. Robert W. Wynkoop, MCAS Miramar, Calif.

History was made on 24 August 2002, when a team of more than 30 Navy and Marine Corps flag officers toured MCAS Miramar, Calif., as part of the Naval Aviation Readiness Integrated Improvement Program (NAVRIP) "Boots on the Ground" (BOG) operation (see Jul-Aug 02, p. 16-17). Miramar was the first Marine station to participate in the program, which gives junior Marines a chance to identify barriers to readiness during a five-week barrier identification and problem-solving process.

The Marines also had the opportunity talk with senior leadership about the barriers as they toured workstations. The BOG team visited Marine Aircraft Group 11, making stops at Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (MALS) 11 and Marine Fighter-Attack Training Squadron 101. Senior leadership shadowed Marines throughout their workspaces asking questions and giving suggestions on how to start the process of improving nondeployed readiness. The visit was helpful to junior enlisted service members and the BOG team, said Chief Warrant Officer William A. Ross, assistant avionics officer of MALS-11. "[The visit] provides necessary visibility for those who support us. They can see what type of things we struggle with day-to-day and can help us with our support needs," Ross said. Barriers brought to the team's attention included broken electronics-testing equipment and an unserviceable F/A-18 Hornet fuel tank that was delivered new from a supply warehouse, punctured and unusable.

The opportunity for the NAVRIP team to speak



**LCpl. Robert Reyes of VMFA-314 inspects the integrity of a parachute's shroud lines in the aircrew survival equipment shop on board *John C. Stennis* (CVN 74). Photo by PHAN Tina Lamb.**

individually to Marines is necessary to the Naval Aviation mission, said Navy Lt. Arvis Owens, aide de camp, Naval Inventory Control Point. "We want to talk to the wrench turners. They're the ones who will give the most honest answers. Once we know what's wrong, we can find a way to fix it," he explained.

For many Marines the experience was something they will never forget. "It's not every day you look over your shoulder and see an admiral watching you work," said Cpl. William A. Branstetter, a MALS-11 engine mechanic. "It's good that they are here wanting to make our job a little easier."

Many problems discussed during the visit dealt with aging or unserviceable equipment, but the team also took interest in the training barriers in the Fleet Marine Force. NAVRIP addresses

problems by finding and correcting their root causes and implementing solutions across the community. In addition to breaking down equipment barriers, the communication during BOG helps Marines and Sailors understand their part in Naval Aviation.

The barriers identified that can be taken care of at the station level are now being fixed. Those requiring more research and analysis will be assigned to cross-functional teams of subject-matter experts to solve.

For more information about NAVRIP and the "Boots on the Ground" team, go to [www.cnap.navy.mil/navriip](http://www.cnap.navy.mil/navriip). For more news about NAVAIR, visit their Navy NewsStand page at [www.news.navy.mil/local/navair](http://www.news.navy.mil/local/navair).

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

**CVW-1:** Capt. Jeffrey M. Cathey relieved Capt. Stephen S. Voetsch, 22 Jul 02.

**CVW-8:** Capt. David A. Newland relieved Capt. David J. Mercer, 3 Oct 02.

**FITWINGLANT:** Capt. William G. Bond relieved Capt. Mark N. Clemente, 19 Jul 02.

**HSL-45:** Cdr. Jeffrey S. Dale relieved Cdr. Charles E. Norberg, Jr., 12 Sep 02.

**HSL-49:** Cdr. Alexander V. Sharp relieved Cdr. Frederick T. Blanchard, 3 Oct 02.

**HSL-51:** Cdr. Daniel H. Fillion relieved Cdr. Mathew J. McCloskey, 5 Sep 02.

**Kitty Hawk (CV 63):** Capt. Robert Barbaree, Jr., relieved Capt. Thomas Hejl, 3 Sep 02.

**NAMTRAU Whidbey Island, Wash.:** Cdr. Rafaelito De Jesus relieved Cdr. Robert Fiegl, Jr., 11 Oct 02.

**NAS Oceana, Va.:** Capt. Jason A. Leaver relieved Capt. Cary A. Silvers, 3 Oct 02.

**STRKFITWINGLANT:** Capt. Eamon Storrs relieved Capt. Mark Benson, 23 Aug 02.

**VF-11:** Cdr. Leif Lagergren relieved Cdr. John Aquilino, 30 Aug 02.

**VF-31:** Cdr. Paul A. Haas relieved Cdr. Victor R. Olivarez, 30

Aug 02.

**VFA-27:** Cdr. Gary Shoman relieved Cdr. David Emich, 29 Aug 02.

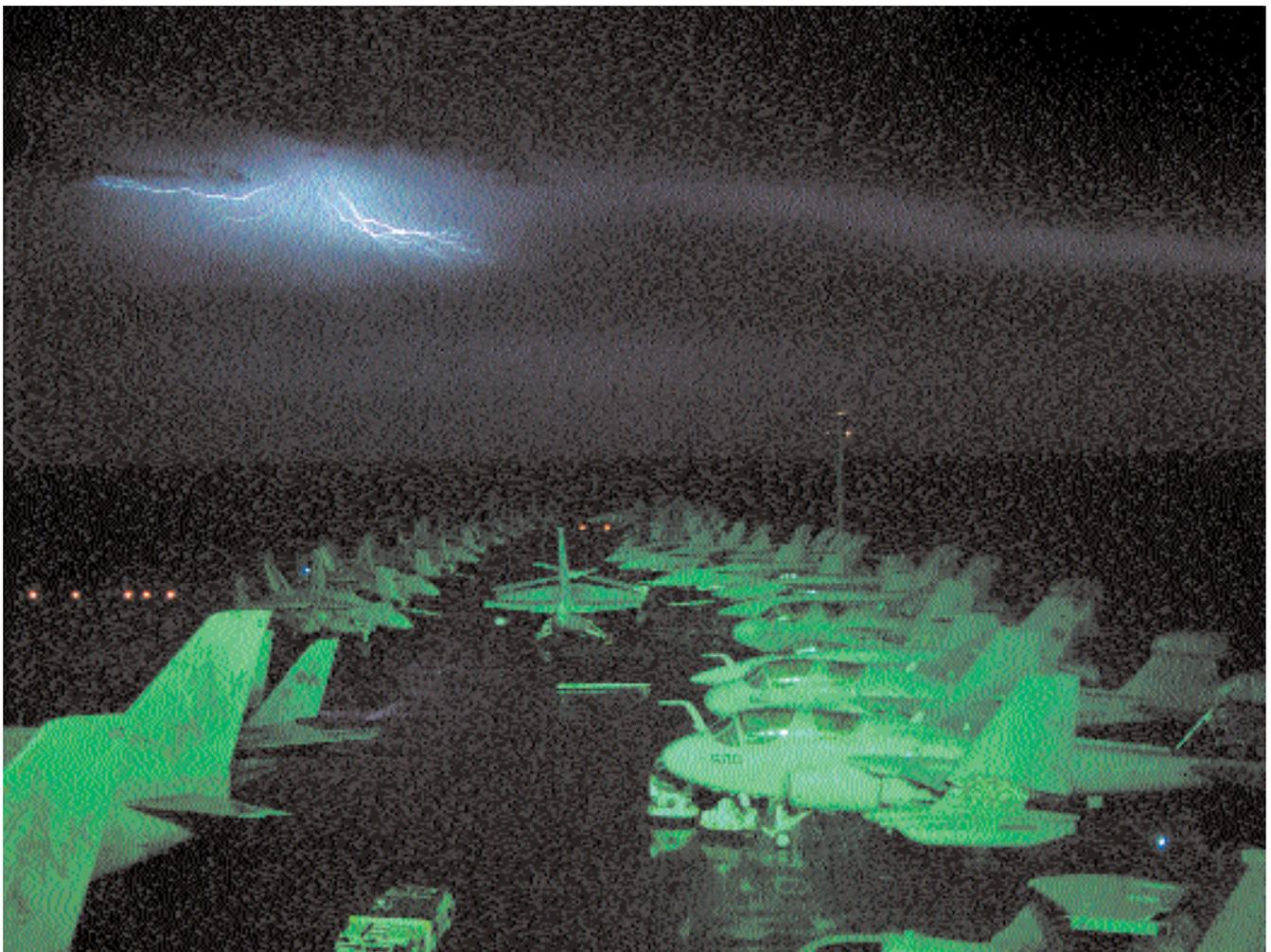
**VFA-83:** Cdr. Dennis C. Mikeska relieved Cdr. Thomas A. Meadows, 8 Oct 02.

**VFA-106:** Cdr. Troy Shoemaker relieved Cdr. Craig B. Williams, 18 Oct 02.

**VS-21:** Cdr. Steve Pettit relieved Cdr. Rich Farrell, 23 Aug 02.

**VT-22:** Cdr. William G. Davis relieved Cdr. Lee A. Steele, 6 Sep 02.

**VT-27:** Cdr. James L. Vandiver relieved Cdr. Timothy E. Coolidge, 2 Aug 02.



Lt. Troy Wilcox

Carrier Air Wing 14 aircraft take on an eerie glow while parked on the wet flight deck of *Abraham Lincoln* (CVN 72), while lightning emerges from the ominous clouds.

# 'ADVANCEMENT JEOPARDY' HELPS FLEET, SHORE SAILORS

By Bill Doughty, U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka Public Affairs

A picture of *Greenville* (SSN 772) in drydock comes on the screen. Can you name its class? Which U.S. president authorized the Purple Heart?

These were a few of the questions at a recent "Advancement Jeopardy" game held at the U.S. Naval Hospital Yokosuka, Japan. Sailors everywhere study hard for their advancement exams. At Yokosuka, they make a game of it. Chiefs ask questions and the teams of Sailors buzz in when they think they have the right answer. They compete for points and pride. In a recent game, a three-person team from the hospital faced a tough team of hospital corpsmen (HM) from *Frank Cable* (AS 40). HM2(FMF) John Tyrrell, a preventive medicine technician on the ship, said, "This is a good idea. It helps you see the advancements you've made in your studying."

Through instant feedback, participants learn ways of



PH1 (AW/SW) Greg Messier

retaining information. "It helps a lot," said HN Phillip Bennett of the Yokosuka Surgery Clinic. "Before, I never used to be able to remember this kind of stuff, but after we get the questions wrong the chiefs go over them and explain everything."

The hospital team got off to an early start in a recent game, but *Frank Cable* fought hard to a near tie and a rematch was called. For people who watched, it will be hard to forget that *Greenville*, above, is a *Los Angeles*-class attack submarine or that George Washington was the president who ordered the creation of the Purple Heart.

For more news from U.S. Naval Hospital, Yokosuka, Japan, go to their custom Navy NewsStand



PH2 Michael Sandberg

Above, a landing signal enlisted crew member guides a CH-46 Sea Knight from HC-6 to a safe landing aboard *Nassau* (LHA 4), operating off the coast of Djibouti, Africa.

## MUNCH-Ex '02

Three new employees, Larry, Pete and Ron, were "hired" at NAF Key West, Fla., to help maintain the grass in the Seminole Battery area of the facility after no local contractor expressed interest in the job.



"Pete"

